

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE)	
COMMISSION,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	CIVIL ACTION NO.
VS.)	
)	3:20-CV-0822-G
JEFFREY D. CORDES, ET AL.)	
)	
Defendants.)	

FINAL JUDGMENT AS TO DEFENDANT JEFFREY D. CORDES

The Securities and Exchange Commission having filed a Complaint and Defendant Jeffery D. Cordes (“Defendant”) having entered a general appearance; consented to the Court’s jurisdiction over Defendant and the subject matter of this action; consented to entry of this Final Judgment without admitting or denying the allegations of the Complaint (except as to jurisdiction and except as otherwise provided herein in paragraph XIII); waived findings of fact and conclusions of law; and waived any right to appeal from this Final Judgment:

I.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendant is permanently restrained and enjoined from violating, directly or indirectly, Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”) [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder [17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5], by using

any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, or of the mails, or of any facility of any national securities exchange, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security:

- (a) to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud;
- (b) to make any untrue statement of a material fact or to omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading;
or
- (c) to engage in any act, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also binds the following who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendant's officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendant or with anyone described in (a).

II.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendant is permanently restrained and enjoined from violating Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") [15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)] in the offer or sale of any security by the use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or by use of the mails, directly or indirectly:

- (a) to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud;
- (b) to obtain money or property by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or any omission of a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or
- (c) to engage in any transaction, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon the purchaser.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also binds the following who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendant's officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendant or with anyone described in (a).

III.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendant is permanently restrained and enjoined from violating Section 13(b)(5) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78m(b)(5)] and Rule 13b2-1 promulgated thereunder [17 C.F.R. § 240.13b2-1] by:

- (a) knowingly circumventing or knowingly failing to implement a system of internal accounting controls or knowingly falsifying any book, record, or account described in Section 13(b)(2) of the Exchange Act; or
- (b) falsifying or causing to be falsified, directly or indirectly, any book, record or account subject to Section 13(b)(2)(A) of the Exchange Act.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also binds the following who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendant's officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendant or with anyone described in (a).

IV.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendant is permanently restrained and enjoined from violating Rule 13a-14 promulgated under the Exchange Act [17 C.F.R. § 240.13a-14] by filing or causing to be filed any annual or quarterly report on behalf of any issuer required to be filed with the Commission pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, which contains a certification required by Rule 13a-14 [17 C.F.R. § 240.13a-14] that includes an untrue statements of material fact, or fails to include, in addition to the information required to be stated in such certification, such further material information as may be necessary to make the required statements, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, or fails to disclose any information required to be disclosed therein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also

binds the following who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendant's officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendant or with anyone described in (a).

V.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendant is permanently restrained and enjoined from violating Rule 13b2-2(a) [17 C.F.R. § 240.13b2-2(a)] promulgated under the Exchange Act by, as an officer or director of an issuer, (a) making or causing to be made a materially false or misleading statement or (b) omitting to state, or causing another person to omit to state, any material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, to an accountant in connection with: (i) any audit, review, or examination of the financial statements of an issuer required to be made pursuant to Section 13 of the Exchange Act; or (ii) the preparation or filing of any document or report required to be filed with the Commission.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraphs also binds the following who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendant's officers, agents, servants, employees, and

attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendant or with anyone described in (a).

VI.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendant is permanently restrained and enjoined from violating Rule 13b2-2(b) [17 C.F.R. § 240.13b2-2(b)] by, as an officer or director of an issuer or under the direction thereof, taking any action to coerce, manipulate, mislead, or fraudulently influence any independent public or certified public accountant engaged in the performance of an audit or review of the financial statements of an issuer that are required to be filed with the Commission if Defendant knew or should have known that such action, if successful, could result in rendering the issuer's financial statements materially misleading.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraphs also binds the following who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendant's officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendant or with anyone described in (a).

VII.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendant is permanently restrained and enjoined from aiding and abetting any violation of Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78m(a)] and Rules 12b-20, 13a-1, 13a-11 and 13a-13 promulgated thereunder [17 C.F.R. §§ 240.12b-20, 240.13a.1, 240.13a.11, and 240.13a-13] by knowingly or recklessly providing substantial assistance to an issuer that has a class of securities registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78] or section 15(d) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78o(d)] that violates, directly or indirectly, Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act 15 U.S.C. § 78m(a)] and Rules 12b-20, 13a-1, 13a-11 and 13a-13 promulgated thereunder [17 C.F.R. §§ 240.12b-20, 240.13a.1, 240.13a.11, and 240.13a-13], by failing to file annual, current, or quarterly reports in conformity with the instructions on Form 10-K, Form 8-K, and Form 10-Q, respectively, by failing to file such reports in conformity with the Commission's integrated reporting and disclosure regulations, Regulation S-K and S-X [17 C.F.R. §§ 229.10 *et seq.* and 210.1-01 *et seq.*], or by failing to include such further material information as may be necessary to make the required statements in such reports, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also

binds the following who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendant's officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendant or with anyone described in (a).

VIII.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendant is permanently restrained and enjoined from aiding and abetting any violation of Sections 13(b)(2)(A) and 13(b)(2)(B) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 78m(b)(2)(A) and 78(b)(2)(B)] by knowingly or recklessly providing substantial assistance to an issuer that:

- (a) Fails to make or keep books, records, or accounts which, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the issuer's assets; or
- (b) Fails to devise and maintain a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide reasonable assurances that (i) transactions are executed in accordance with management's general or specific authorizations; (ii) transactions are recorded as necessary (A) to permit preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles or any other criteria applicable to such statements, and (B) to maintain accountability for assets; (iii) access to assets is permitted only in accordance with management's general or specific authorization; and (iv) the recorded accountability for assets is compared with the existing assets at reasonable intervals and appropriate action is taken with respect to any differences.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also

binds the following who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendant's officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendant or with anyone described in (a).

IX.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, pursuant to Section 21(d)(2) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78u(d)(2)] and Section 20(e) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77t(e)], Defendant is prohibited, following the date of entry of this Final Judgment, from acting as an officer or director of any issuer that has a class of securities registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78l] or that is required to file reports pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78o(d)].

X.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendant shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$173,437 to the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 20(d) of the Securities Act and Section 21(d)(3) of the Exchange Act. Defendant shall make this payment pursuant to the terms of the payment schedule set forth in paragraph XI below after entry of this Final Judgment.

Defendant may transmit payment electronically to the Commission, which will provide detailed ACH transfer/Fedwire instructions upon request. Payment may also be made directly from a bank account via Pay.gov through the SEC website at <http://www.sec.gov/about/offices/ofm.htm>. Defendant may also pay by certified check, bank cashier's check, or United States postal money order payable to the Securities and Exchange Commission, which shall be delivered or mailed to

Enterprise Services Center
Accounts Receivable Branch
6500 South MacArthur Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73169

and shall be accompanied by a letter identifying the case title, civil action number, and name of this Court; Cordes as a defendant in this action; and specifying that payment is made pursuant to this Final Judgment.

Defendant shall simultaneously transmit photocopies of evidence of payment and case identifying information to the Commission's counsel in this action. By making this payment, Defendant relinquishes all legal and equitable right, title, and interest in such funds and no part of the funds shall be returned to Defendant. The Commission shall send the funds paid pursuant to this Final Judgment to the United States Treasury. Defendant shall pay post-judgment interest on any delinquent amounts pursuant to 28 USC § 1961.

XI.

Cordes shall pay the total penalty due of \$173,437.00 in five installments to the Commission according to the following schedule: (1) \$20,000.00 within 30 days of the entry of this Final Judgment; (2) \$25,000.00 within 90 days of entry of this Final Judgment; (3) \$30,000.00 within 180 days of entry of this Final Judgment; (4) \$40,000.00 within 270 days of entry of this Final Judgment; and (5) \$58,437.00 within 364 days of entry of this Final Judgment. Payments shall be deemed made on the date they are received by the Commission and shall be applied first to post judgment interest, which accrues pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1961 on any unpaid amounts due after 30 days of the entry of Final Judgment. Prior to making the final payment set forth herein, Cordes shall contact the staff of the Commission for the amount due for the final payment.

If Cordes fails to make any payment by the date agreed and/or in the amount agreed according to the schedule set forth above, all outstanding payments under this Final Judgment, including post-judgment interest, minus any payments made, shall become due and payable immediately at the discretion of the staff of the Commission without further application to the Court.

XII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that the Consent is incorporated herein with the same force and effect as if fully set forth

herein, and that Defendant shall comply with all of the undertakings and agreements set forth therein.

XIII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, solely for purposes of exceptions to discharge set forth in Section 523 of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. §523, the allegations in the complaint are true and admitted by Defendant, and further, any debt for disgorgement, prejudgment interest, civil penalty or other amounts due by Defendant under this Final Judgment or any other judgment, order, consent order, decree or settlement agreement entered in connection with this proceeding, is a debt for the violation by Defendant of the federal securities laws or any regulation or order issued under such laws, as set forth in Section 523(a)(19) of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. §523(a)(19).

XIV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that this Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for the purposes of enforcing the terms of this Final Judgment.

XV.

There being no just reason for delay, pursuant to Rule 54(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Clerk is **ORDERED** to enter this Final Judgment forthwith and without further notice.

April 9, 2020.



A. JOE FISH
Senior United States District Judge